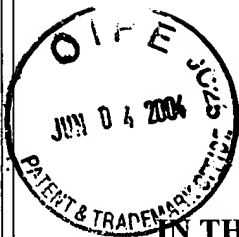


Attorney Docket
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P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CONFIRMATION NO. 1607

Applicants : Katsutoshi ISHII and Kazutoshi MIURA
Serial No. : 09/864,374 Examiner : J. Lund
Filed : May 25, 2001 Art Unit : 1763
For : METHOD FOR FORMING OXYNITRIDE FILM OR THE LIKE
AND SYSTEM FOR CARRYING OUT THE SAME

LETTER DISCLAIMING PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Payment of the Issue Fee for the above-identified application, due June 11, 2004, is being paid concurrent herewith.

As originally filed on May 25, 2001, this application claimed priority from four Japanese patent applications. As a result of the cancellation of non-elected claims 1-12 and 18-31, the claim of priority from two of the Japanese priority applications no longer is applicable. Accordingly, for the subject application directed to allowed claims 15-17, Applicants hereby disclaim priority from Japanese applications 2000-189434 filed June 23, 2000 and 2000-223235 filed July 25, 2000. It is respectfully requested that these two Japanese priority applications be removed from the subject application.

Applicants retain the claim of priority from Japanese applications 2000-157879 filed May 29, 2000 and 2000-162950 filed May 31, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Makuch, Reg. 32,263
SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP
1850 M Street, N.W. - Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel : 202/263-4300 - Fax : 202/263-4329

Date : June 4, 2004

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